

In The Claims

8. A method of insuring against satellite launch failure including rescue reservations comprising the steps of:

purchasing a satellite for orbiting the earth;

obtaining a launch insurance policy prior to launching the satellite, the launch insurance policy including a rescue mission provision from a guarantor covering the unintended launch of the satellite into an unintended orbit, the rescue mission provision providing for the payment to a rescue mission provider for initiation of a rescue mission, as opposed to simply paying out money to the insured, in the event that the satellite is launched into an unintended orbit, the rescue mission provision specifying that the rescue mission shall result in the movement of the satellite from an unintended orbit to an intended orbit;

unintentionally launching the satellite into an unintended orbit so as to trigger the rescue mission provision;

paying a rescue mission provider for the initiation of a rescue mission by the guarantor in accordance with the launch insurance policy; and

initiating a rescue mission and moving the satellite from the unintended orbit to an intended orbit.

9. The method of insuring against satellite launch failure of claim 8 wherein:

the rescue mission provision includes providing for moving an unmanned extension spacecraft within proximity of the orbiting satellite, mechanically connecting the extension spacecraft to the orbiting satellite to form a docked satellite-spacecraft combination, moving the satellite-spacecraft combination using the control systems of the extension spacecraft.

10. The method of insuring against satellite launch failure of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:

moving an unmanned extension spacecraft within proximity of the orbiting satellite; mechanically connecting the extension spacecraft to the orbiting satellite to form a docked satellite-spacecraft combination; and

moving the satellite-spacecraft combination using the control systems of the extension spacecraft.

11. The method of insuring against satellite launch failure of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:

obtaining a rescue mission failure insurance policy from a guarantor which provides for financial compensation to the policy holder in the event of failure of the rescue mission to move the satellite from an unintended orbit to an intended orbit.

12. A method of insuring against satellite launch failure including rescue reservations comprising the steps of:

purchasing a satellite for orbiting the earth;

obtaining a launch insurance policy prior to launching the satellite, the launch insurance policy including a rescue mission provision from a guarantor covering the unintended launch of the satellite into an unintended orbit, the rescue mission provision providing for the payment for initiation of a rescue mission, as opposed to simply paying out money to the insured, in the event that the satellite is launched into an unintended orbit, the rescue mission provision specifying that the rescue mission shall result in the movement of the satellite from an unintended orbit to an intended orbit;

unintentionally launching the satellite into an unintended orbit so as to trigger the rescue mission provision;

paying a rescue mission provider for the initiation of a rescue mission by the guarantor in accordance with the launch insurance policy;

obtaining a rescue mission failure insurance policy prior to the initiation of the rescue mission from a guarantor against failure of the rescue mission to move the satellite from an unintended orbit to an intended orbit to provide monetary compensation for the loss of the satellite;

initiating a rescue mission in an attempt to rescue the satellite by moving the satellite to an intended orbit resulting in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue the satellite; and

providing financial compensation for the loss of the satellite by the guarantor to the policy holder of the rescue mission failure insurance policy.